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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 1, 1949

TO THE HEADS OF AGENCIES:

Last Friday I discussed with the Cabinet Executive Order No. 10072, which directs department and agency heads to give special emphasis to their responsibility for appraising and improving the efficiency of their operations. I am writing to you and to the heads of other agencies to express deep interest and concern for improving administration of the Government's affairs.

In support of Hoover Commission recommendations I have submitted proposed legislation and reorganization plans to the Congress. Additional proposals are under study. These actions are aimed to bring together in each agency progress with common purposes, and to give each agency head the authority and discretion he needs to manage his agency effectively.

These steps to make better administration possible must be complemented by vigorous action to achieve potential improvements in operations. Agency heads are primarily responsible for such action.

The Executive Order does not impose new responsibilities on agency heads. It does provide the means to assure a systematic and continuous management improvement effort on a Government-wide basis, and to keep me informed of progress and accomplishments.

I hope you will designate one of your top officials to be responsible for seeing that an aggressive program to improve the effectiveness and economy of operations is carried out on an agency-wide basis.

Very truly yours,
/s/ HARRY S. TRUMAN